

COUNCIL BRIEFS

January 27, 2017

Bond Rating Agencies affirm West

Hartford's top rating: On January 25, 2017, both Moody's Investor Services and Standard & Poors, the nation's largest bond rating agencies, have assigned their highest ratings, Aaa and AAA, respectively, to the town of West Hartford's \$14 million General Obligation Bonds, Series 2017A. The rating agencies also affirm the Aaa rating on the town's \$133 million of outstanding long-term debt.

This bond issue is for school and town improvements. The bonds will be sold on February 2, 2017.

West Hartford is one of only a few towns in the United States to hold the coveted Aaa / AAA ratings from both Moody's and Standard & Poors. Even fewer have maintained such ratings since 1974, as West Hartford has.

Central Business District Planning Forum:

Please join us on Tuesday, February 7th at either 6:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, Room 400, to participate in a planning forum that will focus on the West Hartford Center Central Business (BC) zoning district. A wide variety of topics will be discussed including the planning and zoning process, applicability of planning and zoning principles within the BC zone and issues related to density in the Center.

Most importantly, we want to hear your thoughts on the Center of today and the Center of tomorrow. We hope you can attend and provide your input and [please take our short survey](#). For more information, please visit the [Planning Office web site](#) or call or email Town Planner [Todd Dumais](#) at 860.561.7556.

News from The Bridge Family Center: While The Bridge continues to get calls seeking counseling for children and families, they are seeing an upward trend in the number of adults looking help with anxiety.

The Bridge is experiencing an increased demand for in-school mentoring, particularly for boys at

the middle school level. There is currently a wait list.

The Family Resource Center has begun its People Empowering People (PEP) program, as well as its Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI). PEP runs for 10 weeks and PLTI will go for 20 weeks.

West Hartford Reads! Pulitzer Prize-winner Richard Russo will visit West Hartford on Wednesday, April 26, at 7PM for WEST HARTFORD READS!, an annual reading initiative encouraging everyone in town to read the works of one notable author. Richard Russo is the author of eight novels, two collections of stories, and "Elsewhere," a memoir.

There will be ten book discussions held at the Noah Webster Library leading up to the April 26 event. Those interested may register for the book discussion, or register to see Richard Russo at Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 by visiting <http://bit.ly/WHREADSRusso>.

Richard Russo's latest book, "Everybody's Fool," will be available for purchase and autographing at the event. This program is made possible by the generous support of the West Hartford Public Library Foundation, Thomas F. Kilfoil Memorial Bequest. For more information, please call the library at 860-561-6990 or visit westhartfordlibrary.org

Trash Challenges & Solutions: Join us on Wednesday, February 1 at 2:00 PM at Elmwood Community Center for the last in a series of three public meetings on the trash crisis in Connecticut, its impact on West Hartford, and how a Save Money and Reduce Trash (SMART) program might be able to help. This meeting is a forum for residents to ask questions and voice opinions about the trash issue and SMART program.

Ronald F. Van Winkle
Town Manager